

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 00966 131807Z

50

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-01

SP-02 PM-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PRS-01 EUR-08 SAM-01

SAB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 SCCT-01 /055 W

----- 034997

O R 131730Z MAR 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2954

USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0966

LIMDIS

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD; ASWAN FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLO, SY

SUBJECT: ARAFAT SEEKS CLARIFICATION OF ASAD PROPOSAL FOR SYRIAN-
PALESTINIAN JOINT COMMAND

REF: A. DAMASCUS 935; B. DAMASCUS 558 (NOTAL)

1. LIBYAN AMBASSADOR BEN KHAYAL INFORMED ME MARCH 13
THAT ARAFAT HAD TOLD HIM EARLIER SAME DAY HE UNCERTAIN
WHAT ASAD HAD IN MIND IN TERMS OF JOINT SYRIAN-
PALESTINIAN COMMAND. ARAFAT SAID HE HAD REQUESTED
MEETING WITH ASAD AND EXPECTED SAME MARCH 13.

2. LIBYAN CHARACTERIZED AS "LIKELY EGYPTIAN PROVOCATION"

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ARTICLE IN TODAY'S BEIRUT "DAILY STAR" ATTRIBUTED TO
MENA, HEADLINED "ARAFAT FLIES TO MOSCOW TO DISCUSS

SYRIAN OFFER." ARAFAT IN ANY EVENT MADE NO MENTION
OF PROJECTED MOSCOW TRIP TO LIBYAN. AS LIBYAN OBSERVED, ARAFAT
UNLIKELY SEEK PUBLIC SOVIET BACKING FOR JOINT COMMAND
WHEN HE HAD NOT YET EVEN BEGUN PROCESS OF SECURING
PALESTINIAN BACKING.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 MAR 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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To: STATE ASWAN
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